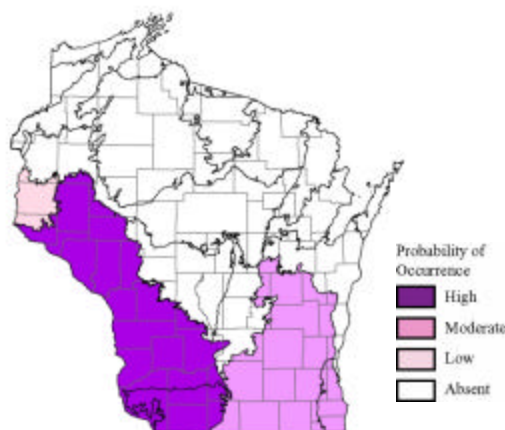


Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*)

Species Assessment Scores*

State rarity:	4
State threats:	4
State population trend:	3
Global abundance:	3
Global distribution:	5
Global threats:	4
Global population trend:	5
Mean Risk Score:	4
Area of importance:	2

* Please see the [Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries \(Section 3.1.1\)](#) for definitions of criteria and scores.



Ecological Landscape Associations

Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

Landscape-community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
Southeast Glacial Plains	Dry prairie
Southeast Glacial Plains	Dry-mesic prairie
Southeast Glacial Plains	Shrub-carr
Southeast Glacial Plains	Surrogate grasslands
Southeast Glacial Plains	Wet-mesic prairie
Southern Lake Michigan Coastal	Wet-mesic prairie
Southwest Savanna	Dry prairie
Southwest Savanna	Dry-mesic prairie
Southwest Savanna	Mesic prairie
Southwest Savanna	Oak opening
Southwest Savanna	Surrogate grasslands
Southwest Savanna	Wet-mesic prairie
Western Coulee and Ridges	Dry prairie
Western Coulee and Ridges	Dry-mesic prairie
Western Coulee and Ridges	Oak opening
Western Coulee and Ridges	Sand prairie
Western Coulee and Ridges	Shrub-carr
Western Coulee and Ridges	Surrogate grasslands
Western Coulee and Ridges	Wet prairie
Western Coulee and Ridges	Wet-mesic prairie

Threats and Issues

- Lack of fire or disturbance to regenerate shrubs, etc.
- Succession of old, shrubby fields to forest is a primary threat. Management is needed to maintain shrubby areas in grassland/natural landscapes.
- Intensification of agriculture, housing development, etc. are all threats.

- Large water releases from dams and reservoirs in April-June can inundate low-lying vireo nests in downstream areas, resulting in high nest loss and egg/nestling mortality.
- Modifications that promote habitat patchiness apparently increase rates of cowbird parasitism, resulting in reduced nesting success. Increased habitat patchiness also acts to segregate remaining breeding vireos into disjunct subpopulations that are more susceptible to extirpation.
- Bell's Vireos might not be present if grazing is too intense.
- It is not known how Bell's Vireos respond to invasive shrubs.
- Probably sensitive to predation from cats and other abundant meso-predators.

Priority Conservation Actions

- It is likely that most Bell's Vireos are on private land, therefore we need programs that manage for this bird on private lands.
- Preserve shrubby vegetation along roadsides, fences, and powerlines. To improve shrub habitat, remove exotic vegetation and occasionally trees and shrubs that no longer provide dense vegetation cover below 7 feet. Revegetate riparian and shrub corridors to increase extent of nesting habitat and to deter cowbirds.
- Conduct research to develop management recommendations for this and other shrubland species, including investigating the potential impacts of invasive plants, grazing, and meso-predators.